



HANNAH'S ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS

Abbreviated Update

- Speed bumps with girls group
- Gave my first lesson with DESEO
- School year is ending
- My ankle is healing

Girls Group

Girls group has not necessarily taken off flying. The first few meetings, we had a steady rate of two girls. After that, no one came for a few weeks, and now we've decided to look for other ways to minister to these girls. I think part of the problem is that the girls don't necessarily know each other OR us very well, so it's an intimidating concept to them. The other issue is that the school year is ending here, so our girls that were coming are stressed out about exams and end of year projects. So for now we're going to try to focus on developing friendships more individually. Schools had a break the first week of October, so we took advantage of that to make plans with a few girls during lunch breaks or after work. By the end of that week, we had spent some quality time with three girls. *Please pray* for wisdom and patience in decisions regarding these girls, and also for energy to take advantage of every opportunity to reach out to them. Every Sunday has been a battle in my heart between the desire to just sit down in my seat behind the praise team to avoid everyone and greeting and talking with my church family the way I know I should. I will seriously appreciate your prayers that I would go to church on Sundays with the purpose of reaching out to people instead of just being there to sing.



First Lesson

So it's actually a little silly how we ended up teaching our first lessons to the kids. Our boss was joking several weeks beforehand and said "y'all are going to have to teach the



lesson on peace, it's the last lesson of the year! Get ready." Well we had no clue that she was joking, and prepared lessons for the kids. When she finally told us it was a joke, we were so prepared that she gave us the option to teach the theme or not, and we both chose to go ahead and teach it. She was impressed with us, and it is now highly likely that in the new year one or both of us will be responsible for our own classrooms. Some of the schools have requested that we teach English, so there's also a possibility that one of us will have her own classrooms and the other will go around to all of them teaching a few minutes of English, the way Abbie Wilson teaches sign language in the mornings.



Ending School Year

The school years in public schools in Honduras go from February to November, therefore DESEO finishes in the schools the last week of October. For our last week in the schools, we prepared a drama to go with a famous song called "Arrebató." It's about taking back from Satan the things that don't belong to him. After the drama, we passed out the final grades in our classrooms, with prizes for those few who got 100%, and smaller gifts for everyone else, like balloons or pencils. Some of the schools prepared an entire program to say goodbye to us, with children singing, reciting poems, or dancing and the directors thanking us for our work. It was super precious, and so hard to say goodbye to some of the kids, especially the older ones





with whom we won't be working next year. One of the schools in Corquin, Jose Cecilio del Valle, totally blew us away. They had us sit down where the kids sit, and they did everything for us that we normally do. They had a whole

group of kids come out (wearing the same color shirts as our Friday uniforms!) and lead a lot of the songs that we've taught them over the year, a group did a skit of the ten lepers with costumes and wigs and everything, and one of the kids led the prayer. It was so precious and fun and wonderful. The teachers had prepared lunch for us, and our students brought presents for each of us. This was the last school of the week, so we ended on an excellent note. I am learning from these children how to show gratitude in ways I never thought of.

Soccer Team

Even though I haven't been able to play, I've been going to every single game and practice that I could in order to be involved in this soccer team. If you remember from my last newsletter, I think it's an outreach opportunity. I gave my ankle about a month to rest, and started playing again on October 21. It seems to be healing slowly but surely. Our team is honestly not very good at soccer (I've only witnessed them win once) but I love them. They really enjoy being together, and are super passionate people. And I hope that we continue to play as a team in the coming year.



In Conclusion

Please continue to remember me in your prayers. There are days when I am frustrated with the culture or expectations I'm held to that feel unreasonable, and I need the help of the Lord to practice patience and humility, and loving other people as I should is something that only comes from his strength. There are also days when I feel joy to be here and happiness with my life. I am deeply thankful to those of you who read these newsletters and even more when you respond.

Much love,

Hannah Baker